

- Substitute the descriptions of Figs. 2 and 3 on page 4, lines 8 – 11, with the following descriptions:

-- Fig. 2 is an elevational view of a rug clip mounted to a door and poised for clipping a rug in a hanging position;

Fig. 3 is an elevational view of a rug clip mounted to a door that has been clipped onto a rug for hanging the rug; and --

- Add the following descriptions of new Fig. 4 to page 4, after line 11.

-- Fig. 4 is an elevational view of a rug clip mounted to a door that has been clipped onto a rug for hanging the rug.--

b) In the Claims:

Please incorporate the claims set forth below (revisions shown):

What is claimed is:

1 – 18. Cancelled

19. A rug and clip for assembly, the rug and clip assembly comprising: a clip comprising a channel-shaped bracket including a top portion having a bottom surface, a front leg extending from a first edge of the top portion, and a rear leg extending from a second edge of the top portion opposite the first edge, wherein the front leg and the rear leg are approximately perpendicular in relation to the top portion; a clipping mechanism mounted to the front leg for tripping the rug; and a non-slip material attached to the bottom surface of the top portion and a rug disposed in said clip .

20. A rug and clip assembly as recited in Claim 1, wherein the clipping mechanism is a cam-action clipping mechanism including an inner jaw extending from the front leg, an outer

jaw pivotally attached to the front leg and configured to engage the inner jaw to grip the rug, and a cam arm pivotally attached to the front leg for engaging the outer jaw to bias the outer jaw into engagement the inner jaw.

21. A rug and clip assembly as recited in Claim 1, wherein the clipping mechanism is a spring-action clipping mechanism including opposed jaw members pivotally secured to each other and biased with a coil spring to cause the jaw members toward engagement for gripping the rug.
22. A rug and clip assembly as recited in Claim 1, wherein the channel-shaped bracket and the clipping mechanism are made of stainless steel.
23. A rug and clip assembly as recited in Claim 1, wherein the channel-shaped bracket and the clipping mechanism are made of galvanized plain steel.
24. A rug and clip assembly as recited in Claim 1, wherein the non-slip material is selected from natural rubber, butyl, EPDM, hypalon, neoprene, and nitrile.
25. A rug and clip assembly as recited in Claim 1, wherein the non-slip material is attached to the bottom surface of the top portion with an adhesive.
26. A rug and clip assembly f, the rug and clip assembly comprising: a clip comprising a channel-shaped bracket including a top portion having a bottom surface, a front leg extending from the first edge of the top portion, and a rear leg extending from a second edge of the top portion opposite the first edge, wherein the front leg and the rear leg are approximately perpendicular in relation to the top portion; a cam-action clipping

mechanism mounted to the front leg for gripping, the cam-action clipping mechanism including an inner jaw extending from the front leg, an outer jaw pivotally attached to the front leg and configured to engage the inner jaw to grip, and a cam arm pivotally attached to the front leg for engaging the out jaw to bias the outer jaw into engagement with the inner jaw; and a non-slip material attached to the bottom surface of the top portion, and a rug incorporated into said clip .

27. A rug and clip assembly as recited in Claim 11, wherein the channel-shaped bracket and the cam-action clipping mechanism are made of stainless steel.
28. A rug and clip assembly as recited in Claim 11, wherein the channel-shaped bracket and the cam-action clipping mechanism are made of galvanized plain steel.
29. A rug and clip assembly as recited in Claim 11, wherein the non-slip material is selected from natural rubber, butyl, EPDM, hypalon, neoprene, and nitrile.
30. A rug and clip assembly as recited in Claim 11, wherein the non-slip material is attached to the bottom surface of the top portion with an adhesive

II. REMARKS

Consideration of the above-identified continuation application in view of the preceding claims is respectfully requested. By this preliminary amendment, Claims 1-18 have been canceled, without prejudice, and new Claims 19-30 have been added. Applicant reserves the right to prosecute the canceled claims in one or more co-pending applications. The specification and drawings provide support for all of the newly added claims. No new matter has been added by this preliminary amendment. Applicant respectfully asserts that the Examiner's obvious

rejections cited in the December 26, 2002 office action, which Applicant respectfully traverses, are overcome in that the prior art of record does not show the combination assembly asserted in the present claims.

Applicant notes that Zoroufy 5,318,174 recognizes that the hanging of rugs and carpets is a formidable task because of their considerable weight (col. 1, lines 39 – 42) and proposes a clip that does not require holes to be made in the carpets to hang them. However, Zoroufy 5,318,174 does not recognize at all the problem associated with holding the rugs in place on racks when the rugs are held in a display rack that is swung about its hinges. In fact, Zoroufy 5,318,174 indicates that his clips are “slidably suspendable” from the rod (col. 2, line 2). Holt 2,483,051 which relates to a foldable drying rack does not provide the impetus for the present invention in that the rods 12 are clearly not designed to hold carpets, and in that the non-slip material of this invention is not found in clips placed along rods 12 but rather on retaining hooks 16 which clearly serve a different purpose, as indicated by the patent specification, *viz.* to prevent marring the surface of an object upon which the rack is mounted. Peacock 2,626,713 does not rectify this short coming.

In regard to the Examiner’s rejection in parent application 09/982,360 in regard to proposed drawing corrections with respect to proposed Figs. 5 and 6, Applicant asserts that such rejection is mooted by withdrawal of proposed Figs. 5 and 6, and the present claims.

In light of the new claims, and the arguments advanced herein, Applicant respectfully seeks an early allowance.

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